U.S. Arms Supply to Pakistan

*5. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR
SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports that military equipment proposed to be supplied to Pakistan under the Brown Amendment to the Pressler Amendment has since been delivered to Pakistan;

(b) if so, in how many instalments and consignments the same is understood to have been delivered and other details of the consignments; and

(c) the Government's reaction and response thereto; including by way of raising matching defences in the context of security perceptions?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is reported that most of the military equipment proposed to be supplied to Pakistan under the Brown amendment has already been delivered in three consignments which were received in Pakistan between August and October this year. These include spares (for tanks, armoured recovery vehicles, armoured personnel carriers and artillery guns); C-Nite Mod Kits for Huey Cobra attack helicopter; towed howitzers; radars, TOW-2 missile launchers; 2.75" rockets; Harpoon missiles; spares for mark-46 Torpedo, AIM-9L Sidewinder air-to-air missiles; modification kits for F-16 engines, ground handling equipment and spare parts for F-16 aircraft, etc. It is understood that only the three P-3C Orion Aircrafts covered by the Amendment still remain to be delivered.

Government's position on the supply of advanced military equipment to Pakistan, which includes a number of force multipliers and new items not part of current military holdings in the region, has been reiterated on a number of occasions, including in Parliament. Government is determined to take all necessary measures to counter any adverse effect on our national security, including the strengthening of our defence capabilities.

Task Force for Garment Export Quota Policy

*6. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the garment export quota fixed during the first six months of 1996;

(b) how it compares with the same period of 1994 and 1995;

(c) whether Government have appointed a task force to review the garment and textile export quota policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Garments export quotas are not fixed on a half yearly basis but for the calendar year as a whole.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government had set up a Task Force under the Chairmanship of the Joint Secretary (Exports), Ministry of Taxtiles to review the current garment and textiles quota policies and for suggesting changes, if felt necessary, in the current garments policy and for the formulation of the new long term textile policy beginning 1.1.1997.

The Task Force submitted its report on 31.7.96. After examination of the recommendations of the Task Force, Government have announced the new Textiles and Garments Export Entitlement Policies for 1997—99 on 14.10.1996 and 16.10.1996 respectively.

Intesive Sericulture Development

*7. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched Intensive Sericulture Development Projects in some States;

(b) if so, the name of the States where such projects have been launched;

(c) whether any such sericulture development project has been started in Orissa;

(d) if so, since when and the total hectares of land brought under mulberry cultivation in that State so far; and